

Glossary of Terms

Active Door- In a pair of doors, the leaf that opens first and contains the lock.

Astragal- A molding applied to the meeting edge of the door to protect against weather.

Backset- The distance from the edge of the door to the center of the handle hub or keyed cylinder.

Ball Catch- A catch operated by a ball typically used at the top of the door that keep the door closed.

Cam- The piece of metal on the back of the cylinder that activates the lock.

Center to Center- The distance between two points. Typically applies to a cabinet pull or handle or the distance between a latch and a deadbolt.

Cremona Bolt- A surface mounted decorative bolt the drives the bolts both into the top and bottom points. Typically used on a door, cabinet, or window.

Door Thickness- The thickness of a door where the hardware is to be attached.

Double Acting- A door that swings in both directions.

Dustbox- A plastic or metal box that sits behind the strike protecting the dust and debris from being exposed.

Emergency Release- Refers to the ability to unlock the door from the exterior side in case of an emergency.

Escutcheon- A backplate.

Face Plate- The protective covering on the latch or lock on the edge of the door.

Flush Bolt- A bolt mortised into a door that holds the door closed. Flush bolts can be mounted either in the edge of the door or the face of the door.

Flush Pulls- Recessed pulls typically used on sliding doors such as pocket doors.

Full Dummy- This is a set of inoperable handles on both sides of the door.

Handing- The direction a door swings based on the location of its hinges. This is needed for certain lever sets, mortise locks.

Half Dummy- This is a set of inoperable handles on one side of the door only.

Hub- The portion of the mechanism where the spindle of knob/lever or turn pieces pass through. Typical sizes for knobs/ levers are 7.2mm on the diamond and 8mm on the square. Other sizes do exist. Typical sizes for the turn piece spindles are 5mm and set on the diamond.

Inactive Door- In a pair of doors, the leaf that typically has flush bolts or surface bolts on it and acts as the jamb for the lock or latch.

Magnetic Latch- A magnet that holds a door closed.

Mortise Bolt- A locking mechanism separate from the latching mechanism. It is operated by a turn piece. It is commonly used to provide privacy on a bedroom or bath door.

Mortise Lock- Box like assembly the fits in the edge of the door. It incorporates the locking and latching mechanisms into a single style lock. Functions include: Passage, Privacy, Entry, Patio Function, etc

Multi- Point Lock- Mechanisms that latch at several points of the door. Typically used on French doors made by most of the major window manufacturers.

Passage Function- A non-locking set with operable handles the latch the door closed. Typically used on a closet, laundry room, or pantry.

Patio Function- This is a lockset that is locked by a turn piece from the interior, but has no keyed access from the exterior. Typically used on secondary exterior doors.

Privacy Function- This is a locking mechanism used on interior doors. Commonly used on bedroom and bathroom doors. Typically locked from the interior and has an emergency release on the exterior.

Rabbeted Lock- A mortise lock front which is formed with a right angle offset conforming to the corresponding rebate on the edge of the door jamb.

Rail- Term used for the horizontal pieces that constitute the top, bottom, and middle portions of the door or cabinet.

Roller Latch- A type of door fastener that uses a spring-loaded roller at the top of the door to keep a door closed.

Rose or Rosette- A small back plate that is behind the knob, lever, or turn piece.

Set Screw- A small screw that holds the knob or lever onto the spindle

Spindle- The piece of hardware that goes through the door and attaches the knobs/ levers to one another.

Stile- The vertical elements of the door or cabinet. Typically where the lock is located. The stile is measured from the edge of the door to the glass or panel of the door. This determines the backset of the lock.

Strikes- A plate or other opening that is part of the lock assembly. It is mortised into the door jamb. Types of strikes include T – Strikes, Full Lip Stikes. Thicker doors or doors with thicker moldings may require an extended strike.

Surface Bolt- A device mounted to the face of the door and is used to secure an inactive door to the head or the floor manually operated by a small knob.

Swivel Spindle- A spindle that allows the knobs/levers to operate independently of one another. Typically used in a privacy and entry function.

Tubular Latch- A cylindrical latching mechanism operated by knobs / levers